# ORIGINAL



# <u>MEMORANDUM</u>

20

TO:

Docket Control

Arizona Corporation Commission

FROM:

Ernest G. Johnson

Director

**Utilities Division** 

Date:

January 8, 2007

RE:

STAFF REPORT FOR THE APPLICATION OF JNJ ENTERPRISES, DBA CHRISTOPHER CREEK HAVEN WATER COMPANY, AND UTILITY SYSTEMS, LLC FOR APPROVAL OF THE TRANSFER OF ASSETS AND CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY DOCKET NOS.

W-03880A-06-0299 AND W-20459A-06-0299

Attached is the Staff Report for the application of JNJ Enterprises, dba Christopher Creek Haven, for approval to transfer its the assets and Certificate of Convenience and Necessity to Utility Systems, LLC. Staff recommends approval of the transfer.

EGJ:LAJ:tdp

Originator: Linda A. Jaress

Arizona Corporation Commission DOCKETED

JAN -8 2007

DOCKETED BY

ZOORP COMMISSION

THE CONTRACTOR

Service List for: JNJ Enterprises, dba Christopher Creek Haven Water Company and Utility Systems, , L.L.C.

Docket Nos. W-03880A-06-0299 and W-20459A-06-0299

Mr. Gerald Lendzion 2303 East Heatherbrae Drive Phoenix, Arizona 85016

Mr. Jeffery Daniels Utility Systems, LLC HC 2 Box 164-H Payson, Arizona 85541

Mr. Ernest G. Johnson Director, Utilities Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Mr. Christopher C. Kempley Chief, Legal Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Ms. Lyn Farmer Chief, Hearing Division Arizona Corporation Commission 1200 West Washington Street Phoenix, Arizona 85007

# STAFF REPORT UTILITIES DIVISION ARIZONA CORPORATION COMMISSION

# JNJ ENTERPRISES, LLC DBA CHRISTOPHER CREEK HAVEN WATER COMPANY AND UTILITY SYSTEMS, LLC

# APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF TRANSFER OF ASSETS AND CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY

DOCKET NO. W-03880A-06-0299 AND DOCKET NO. W-20459A-06-0299

**JANUARY 8, 2007** 

# STAFF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

The Staff Report for JNJ Enterprises, LLC dba Christopher Creek Haven Water Company and Utility Systems, LLC, Docket No. W-03880A-06-0299 and Docket No. W-20459A-06-0299 was prepared by the Staff members shown below.

Linda A. Jaress

**Executive Consultant III** 

LAJaren

Del Smith

**Engineering Supervisor** 

Dow.

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY JNJ ENTERPRISES, DBA CHRISTOPHER CREEK HAVEN WATER COMPANY AND UTILITY SYSTEMS, L.L.C. DOCKET NOS. W-03880A-06-0299 AND W-20459A-06-0299

On May 11, 2006, JNJ Enterprises, LLC, dba Christopher Creek Haven Water Company ("Christopher Creek" or "the Company") filed an application to transfer the assets and Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") of Christopher Creek to Utility Systems, LLC ("Utility Systems"). Christopher Creek and JNJ Entrprises, LLC dba Gardner Water Company ("Gardner") are less than 10 miles apart and are both owned and operated by Mr. Gerald Lendzion. The transfer of Gardner to Utility Systems is the subject of another pending docket. Mr. Lendzion expressed a desire to sell both companies "for personal reasons". Mr. Ledzion does not live full time in the Payson area. Mr. Jeffery Daniels, the manager of Utility Systems is a full-time resident in the area, is familiar with the system and will have the ability to respond more quickly to problems. Furthermore, Mr. Daniels is also an Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") certified operator for water distribution and treatment.

Staff recommends approval of the transfer of assets and CC&N of JNJ Enterprises, LLC to Utility Systems, LLC.

Staff recommends that the Company file with docket control, as a compliance item in this docket, within 60 days of the final order in this case, documentation that its 2005 property taxes were paid.

Staff recommends that the Company file a rate case using a 2007 test year by March 31, 2008, due to its poor financial health.

Staff also recommends the Commission order Christopher Creek Haven to keep its books and records in accordance with the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners Uniform System of Accounts as required by A.C.C. R14-2-411.D.2.

Staff recommends that the Company file with docket control, as a compliance item in this docket, documentation demonstrating that PWS ID # 04-005 is in full compliance with ADEQ requirements within 60 days of the effective date of the Commission's order in this matter.

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JNJ Enterprises, LLC dba Christopher Creek Haven Water Company Docket Nos. W-03880A-06-0299 et al Page 1

### Introduction

On May 11, 2006, JNJ Enterprises, LLC, dba Christopher Creek Haven Water Company ("Christopher Creek" or "the Company") filed an application to transfer the assets and Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") of Christopher Creek to Utility Systems, LLC ("Utility Systems"). Christopher Creek provides service to a small area (approximately one forth of a square mile) east of Payson, Arizona in Gila County and serves approximately 166 customers. Attached as Exhibit 1 is the legal description and map of the area.

Christopher Creek and JNJ Enterprises, LLC dba Gardner Water Company ("Gardner") are less than 10 miles apart are both owned and operated by Mr. Gerald Lendzion. The transfer of Gardner to Utility Systems is the subject of another pending docket. Mr. Lendzion expressed a desire to sell both companies "for personal reasons". Mr. Ledzion does not live full time in the Payson area. Mr. Jeffery Daniels, the manager of Utility Systems is a full-time resident in the area, is familiar with the system and will have the ability to respond more quickly to problems. Furthermore, Mr. Daniels is also an Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") certified operator for water distribution and treatment.

Attached to the application is a "Commercial Real Estate Purchase Contract" showing Gerald and Nadine Lendzion as the sellers and Jeffery and Dianne Daniels and Utility Systems L.L.C. as the buyers. The Purchase Contract is for both the Christopher Creek and Gardner water companies. The sales price is shown as \$280,000 with \$220,000 of the sales price being carried by Gerald Lendzion. The sale is contingent upon Arizona Corporation Commission approval and upon the Gerald Lendzion carry back and upon the continued carry back of Caroll Powell, previous owner of Gardner. Finally, the Purchase Contract indicates that Mr. Lendzion will "consult for 1 year at no cost to buyer."

The 2005 annual report of JNJ Enterprises, LLC filed with the Commission is a consolidation of the two companies. However, the balance sheet included in the annual report does not balance. It shows total assets of \$259,363 but liabilities and capital of only \$155,942. If the Company's assets do not equal its liabilities, then clearly, the Company is not following the NARUC system of accounts as required by A.A.C. R14-2-411.D.2.

The annual report showed a total of 250 customers at year end 2005, net plant of \$251,746, zero customer deposits and zero advances in aid of construction. Long term debt of \$108,384 was also reported. This debt consists of \$106,384 for the purchase of the water companies and \$2,000 owed to Gerald Lendzion for operating costs. Principal and interest on the two loans from the non-affiliates equals approximately \$17,400 per year. According to the annual report's income statement, the combined companies generated losses of \$56,388 in 2004 and \$29,824 in 2005.

JNJ Enterprises, LLC's annual report did not contain the canceled checks representing amounts paid for property taxes for the year 2005 as required in the annual report form. Staff

JNJ Enterprises, LLC dba Christopher Creek Haven Water Company Docket Nos. W-03880A-06-0299 et al Page 2

recommends that the Company file with docket control, as a compliance item in this docket, within 60 days of the final order in this case, documentation that 2005 property taxes were paid.

Staff believes that due to inaccurate accounting and apparent large losses, the financial health of Christopher Creek and its continued ability to provide adequate service is at risk. Staff recommends that the Company file a rate case by March 31, 2008, using a 2007 test year. Staff also recommends the Commission order Christopher Creek Haven to keep its books and records in accordance with the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners Uniform System of Accounts as required by A.C.C. R14-2-411.D.2.

# Christopher Creek Haven's Water System

The Company's system consists of four wells with total production of 81 gallons per minute, five storage tanks with total storage capacity of 45,000 gallons and a distribution system. Attached as Exhibit 2, is Staff's Engineering Report which concludes that the Company's system has adequate production and storage capacity to serve its existing base of customers and growth.

The Report also concluded that the Company's water loss is within acceptable limits.

# Compliance

ADEQ regulates the Christopher Creek water system under ADEQ Public Water System Identification No. ("PWS ID #") 04-005. ADEQ determined on October 24, 2006 that this system was delivering water that met ADEQ's water quality standards and did not have any major monitoring and reporting deficiencies. Arsenic levels reported by the Company are below the new maximum arsenic standard of 10 micrograms per liter.

However, ADEQ reported that there were discrepancies in the well identification data submitted with certain water tests and requested that the Company provide documentation showing the correct well identification data. Therefore, Staff recommends that the Company file with docket control, as a compliance item in this docket, documentation demonstrating that PWS ID # 04-005 is in full compliance with ADEQ requirements within 60 days of the effective date of the Commission's order in this matter.

Christopher Creek is not in an Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") Active Management Area. Therefore, the Company is not required to comply with ADWR monitoring and reporting requirements.

The Commission's Utilities Division compliance database indicated that there were no compliance delinquencies for Christopher Creek Haven.

JNJ Enterprises, LLC dba Christopher Creek Haven Water Company Docket Nos. W-03880A-06-0299 et al Page 3

## Recommendations

Staff recommends approval of the transfer of assets and CC&N of Christopher Creek to Utility Systems, LLC.

Staff recommends that the Company file with docket control, as a compliance item in this docket, within 60 days of the final order in this case, documentation that 2005 property taxes were paid.

Staff recommends that the Company file a rate case by March 31, 2008, using a 2007 test year.

Staff also recommends the Commission order Christopher Creek Haven to keep its books and records in accordance with the National Association of Regulatory Commissioners Uniform System of Accounts as required by A.C.C. R14-2-411.D.2.

Staff recommends that the Company file with docket control, as a compliance item in this docket, documentation demonstrating that PWS ID # 04-005 is in full compliance with ADEQ requirements within 60 days of the effective date of the Commission's order in this matter.

If the Company does not comply with the above recommendations by the dates specified, the decision granting the transfer should be null and void after due process.

# MEMORANDUM

TO:

Lında Jaress

Executive Consultant III

Utilities Division

FROM: Barb Wells

Information Technology Specialist

Utilities Division

THRU:

Del Smith

Engineering Supervisor

Utilities Division

DATE:

May 25, 2006

RE:

CHRISTOPHER CREEK HAVEN WATER COMPANY LINJ ENTERPRISES! (DOCKET NO. W-03880A-

06-0299)

UTILITY SYSTEMS, LLC (DOCKET NO. W-20459A-06-0299)

Christopher Creek Haven Water Company (JNJ Enterprises, LLC) has filed an application to transfer their CC\$N to Utility Systems, LLC.

Attached is a copy of the map for your files.

:bsw

Attachment

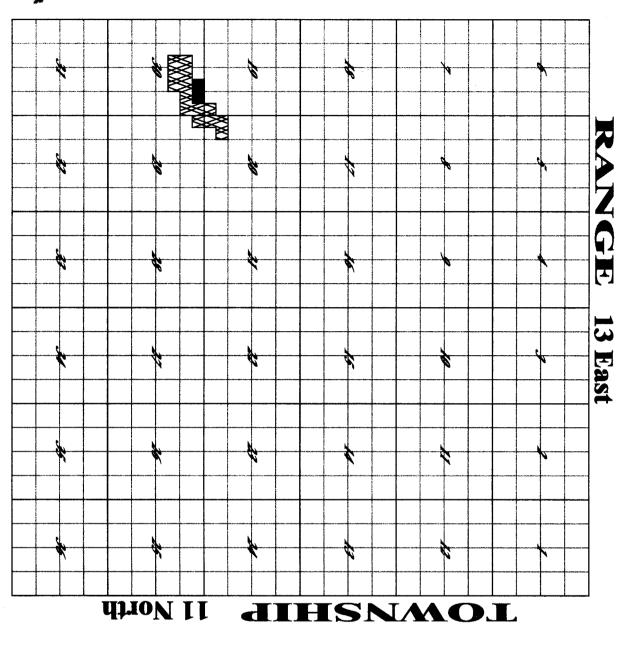
cc: Christopher Creek Haven Water Company

Utility Systems, LLC

Ms. Deb Person (Hand Carried)

File

# COUNTY Gila



Christopher Creek Estates Association (Nonjurisdictiona

JNJ Enterprises, LLC
(Christopher Creek Haven Water Company)
Docket No. W-03880A-06-0299
Application to Transfer to
Utility Systems, LLC
Docket No. W-20459A-06-0299

# **MEMORANDUM**

DATE:

December 28, 2006

TO:

Linda Jaress

FROM:

Del Smith

RE:

APPLICATION OF CHRISTOPHER CREEK HAVEN WATER COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF THE SALE AND TRANSFER OF ITS CERTIFICATE OF CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY TO UTILITY SYSTEMS, LLC.

(DOCKET NOS. W- 03880A-06-0299 AND W-20459A-06-0299)

### Introduction

JNJ Enterprises L.L.C. dba Christopher Creek Haven Water Company ("Christopher Creek" or "the Company") has filed an application ("Application") for Approval of the Sale and Transfer of its Certificate of Convenience and Necessity ("CC&N") with the Arizona Corporation Commission ("ACC" or "the Commission"). The purpose of this Application is to transfer the CC&N to Utility Systems, L.L.C. ("Utility Systems"). Christopher Creek's service area is located approximately 20 miles east of Payson on Highway 260 in Gila County. The Company serves approximately 160 acres (one-quarter of a square mile) in parts of Sections 19, 20, 29 and 30 in Township 11 North Range 13 East. In June 2005, the Company was providing water utility service to 166 customers.<sup>1</sup>

# **Christopher Creek's Water System**

The Company's system consists of four wells (with total production of 81 gallons per minute), five storage tanks (with total storage capacity of 45,000 gallons) and a distribution system serving 166 metered connections. Fire protection is not provided. The Christopher Creek system has adequate production and storage capacity to serve its existing base of customers and growth. Apparently, the Company is experiencing minimal growth and has actually lost a couple of customers in the last year.<sup>2</sup>

# Non-account Water

Non-account water should be 10% or less and never more than 15%. It is important to be able to reconcile the difference between water sold and the water produced by the source. A water balance will allow a water company to identify water and revenue losses due to leakage, theft, and flushing. Non-account water for the Company was calculated to be 4 percent during 2005, which is within acceptable limits.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Information reported in response to Staff's insufficiency letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Information reported in response to Staff's insufficiency letter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Information reported in response to Staff's insufficiency letter.

# Arizona Department of Environmental Quality ("ADEQ") Compliance

ADEQ regulates the Christopher Creek water system under ADEQ Public Water System Identification No. ("PWS ID #") 04-005. ADEQ has determined that this system is currently delivering water that meets water quality standards required by Arizona Administrative Code, Title 18, Chapter 4. ADEQ also reported that this system does not have any major monitoring and reporting deficiencies however, ADEQ reported that there were discrepancies in the well identification data submitted with certain water tests and requested that the Company provide documentation showing the correct well identification data. Staff recommends that the Company file, as a compliance item in this docket, documentation demonstrating that PWS ID # 04-005 is in full compliance with ADEQ requirements within 60 days of the effective date of the Commission's order in this matter.

Arsenic levels reported by the Company for the Christopher Creek system comply with the new arsenic standard of 10 micrograms per liter that became effective on January 23, 2006.<sup>5</sup>

If the proposed transfer is approved, an ADEQ certified operator will be employed by Utility Systems to operate the Christopher Creek system.

# Arizona Department of Water Resources ("ADWR") Compliance

Christopher Creek is not in an ADWR Active Management Area. Therefore, the Company is not required to comply with ADWR monitoring and reporting requirements.

# **ACC Compliance**

A check of the Commission's Utilities Division compliance database indicated that there were no compliance delinquencies for Christopher Creek.<sup>6</sup>

# **Summary**

### **Conclusions**

- 1. The Christopher Creek system has adequate production and storage capacity to serve its existing base of customers and growth.
- 2. Non-account water for the Company was calculated to be 4 percent during 2005, which is within acceptable limits.
- 3. Christopher Creek is not in an ADWR Active Management Area. Therefore, the Company is not required to comply with ADWR monitoring and reporting requirements.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> ADEQ Drinking Water Compliance Status Report dated 10-24-06.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Information reported in the Company's 2005 Commission Annual Report.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Per Compliance Section email dated 12-26-06.

Christopher Creek Haven Water Company Transfer of CC&N Docket Nos. W- 03880A-06-0299 and W-20459A-06-0299 Page 3

4. A check of the Commission's Utilities Division compliance database indicated that there were no compliance delinquencies for Christopher Creek.

# Recommendations

1. Staff recommends that the Company file, as a compliance item in this docket, documentation demonstrating that PWS ID # 04-005 is in full compliance with ADEQ requirements within 60 days of the effective date of the Commission's order in this matter.